

Museum History

Pottsgrove Manor exemplifies the restrained elegance of early Georgian architecture popular with wealthy English gentry during the mid-18th century. Built in 1752 for John and Ruth Potts,



ironmaster and founder of Pottstown, Pottsgrove Manor has lost none of its original charm and architectural beauty. The manor has been restored to recreate the lifestyle and times of the Potts family. Pottsgrove Manor is open year-round for guided tours, as well as public programs, school tours, lectures, and workshops.

Museum Hours

Tuesday through Saturday:
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday:
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Join us for guided tours of the manor house with the last full tour of the day beginning at 3:00 pm.

Closed **Mondays** and the following holidays:

Easter—April 9
Independence Day—July 4
Election Day—November 7
Veterans Day—November 10
Thanksgiving—November 23
Christmas Eve—December 24
New Years Eve—December 31

Check the Pottsgrove Manor website for updates about weather cancelations.

Programs & Amenities

Educational Field Trips & Group Tours

Following state standards, staff will be glad to plan an educational and engaging program for your classroom students. Adults can also enjoy all Pottsgrove Manor has to offer with special tours and programs for every age. Contact museum staff for details about all our educational opportunities, including virtual visits and unique digital content. Groups of 10 or more are requested to call in advance to schedule their tour.

Museum Shop

The shop provides a fine selection of 18th-century reproduction items, books, toys and more.

Accessibility

The first floor of the manor house is handicapped accessible. The site is also equipped with modern, wheelchair-friendly restroom facilities. We have many accessibility options, so please contact the museum for more information about specific accommodations or to sign up for a free virtual visit.

Suggested donation of \$2.00 per person

Contact Us



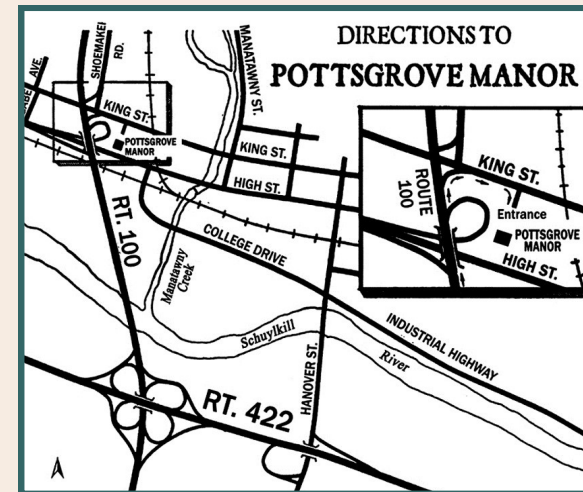
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Phone:
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pottsgrovesmanor](http://www.montcopa.org/pottsgrovesmanor)

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PottsgroveManor@montcopa.org



Directions



From the north—Take Route 100 South to Pottstown. Turn left at the King Street traffic light.

From the south—Take Route 100 North to Pottstown, crossing over the Schuylkill River. Turn right onto the second turn-off at the King Street traffic light.

From the east—Take Route 422 West towards Pottstown. Exit at Route 100 North/Allentown. Then follow the "From the south" directions.

From the west—Take Route 422 East towards Pottstown. Exit at Route 100 North/Allentown. Then follow the "From the south" directions.

Once on King Street, the entrance to Pottsgrove Manor will be immediately on the right.

County of Montgomery
Department of Assets and Infrastructure
Parks, Trails, & Historic Sites Division



Montgomery County Board of Commissioners:
Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, Chair
Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., Vice Chair
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

Pottsgrove Manor

Calendar of Events 2023

January 27th drop-off by 3:00pm, January 28th pick-up at 11:00am

Pottsgrove Sleepover—A Stuffed Animal Adventure

Experience a sleepover at Pottsgrove Manor through the eyes of your favorite stuffed animal. Bring by your children’s favorite toys for an overnight adventure with shared photos and a video goodnight story! The plushies, dolls, and teddy bears will explore the 18th-century home and bed down for the night. Your kids can watch online, seeing their toys snuggling safe and sound, under the

covers in our historic rooms. Then when it’s time to pick up their friends, make-and-take crafts will be a keepsake to remember the fun night of history!

Ages 2-12; Registration Required.

February 11th at 1:00pm

Historic Quilts with Ellen Endslo

Join us for a talk with Ellen Endslo, Director of Collections at Chester County History Center. Learn about the 175+ pieces in their collection, spanning the late 1700s to early 1900s—a small part of the southeastern Pennsylvania quilting heritage. Endslo will also share discoveries from the Chester County Quilt Documentation Project, which captured images and information on more than 1,000 quilts in the region. If you’re an experienced quilter or just curious about this unique art form, come visit Pottsgrove Manor to hear what stories are in every stitch!

March 25th from 11:00am to 3:00pm

Collaborative Cooking with Marissa Nicos

Delve into historic hearth-cooking, and follow us on social media, as we collaborate with rare-cooking blogger, Marissa Nicos. An Assistant Professor of English, Marissa is insatiably curious about weird pamphlets, recipe manuscripts, and archival oddities. But what do the household ledgers of Pottsgrove Manor reveal in the kitchen? Kick off the day by hearing Nicos speak about her research and what historic manuscripts can teach cooks today. Fill your afternoon by seeing what creations are being made at the kitchen of Pottsgrove Manor. Come find out at this engaging event and follow the progress all day with videos and posts on Pottsgrove Manor’s social media.

Unless a materials fee is specified, there is a Suggested donation of \$2.00 per person for tours and programs.

Workshop registration information can be found at the Pottsgrove Manor website.

Saturday, May 6th from 11:00am to 5:00pm

Annual Colonial Mayfair

Welcome the arrival of beautiful spring days with historic style at our annual Colonial Mayfair! Dancing around the Maypole with its rainbow ribbons opens the day to this family-favorite living history event. Discover rows of vendors and roaming interpreters with 18th-century reproduction and handmade items. Historic craft and trade demonstrations plus performances of traditional music, and laugh-out-loud colonial puppet shows, and the famed Benjamin Franklin’s science experiments will delight every member of the family. Free visitor parking available at Pottstown Memorial Park, located at 75 W King Street, with a complementary shuttle service to Pottsgrove Manor.



Saturday, June 17th from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm

Juneteenth Celebration

Honor the history of the Black experience in America with two Juneteenth presentations at Pottsgrove Manor. Daniel Flickinger will tell the important work done by the Friends of the African Union Church of South Coventry, exploring the congregation’s history and protecting the church cemetery. Next, join in the journey down the research rabbit-hole, following Pottsgrove Manor’s attempt to trace community roots among the free and (once) enslaved Black ironworkers of Coventry Forge and find their present-day descendants. Following the talks, visitors are invited to participate in a volunteer cleanup of this historic cemetery, just a few minutes down the road from Pottsgrove Manor. Deepen your understanding of the past, and come learn about the free Black community of South Coventry.

Saturday, June 24th from 11:00am to 3:00pm

“The Social & Medical World of Dr. Jonathan Potts”: Exhibit Opening Celebration

Exhibit will run from June 24th to November 5th, 2023

Join us as we celebrate the life and work of Dr. Jonathan Potts with a new exhibit, special lecture, and living history demonstrations detailing his major achievements and temporary struggles. Historian of 18th-century medicine, Jennifer Bolton will open the exhibit with an 11:00am presentation, exploring medicines purchased and used by Dr. Potts. Discover how physicians treated patients in an age before modern healthcare. Afterwards,

learn about colonial medicine from reenactors, and explore the new exhibit (throughout the museum) with guided tours from Pottsgrove Manor’s staff. Check back with us for related programming during the exhibit’s run, and discover moments that forever changed the life of Dr. Jonathan Potts.

Saturdays, August 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, from

11am to 3pm

Open House Days: Historic Cooking and Collections Curiosities

Every Saturday in August has something new to discover at Pottsgrove Manor! The public can see select 18th-century items from the Pottsgrove Manor collection up close and ask questions to the curator. Visitors can also find historic summer delights being created in the reproduction kitchen from period receipts.

Follow the month’s schedule and choose which days (and curiosities) to visit. The first floor of the museum will be open for visitors to explore at their leisure.



Saturday, September 9th from 11:00am to 3:00pm

A Spinning Workshop with Ruth Konrad

Explore the art of spinning fibers into thread. Participants will go beyond demonstrations of traditional spinning techniques and learn how to transform raw wool into usable yarn themselves! Textile researcher and expert spinner, Ruth Konrad, will share the stories of the natural fibers that were used to make yarn and thread for textiles. Embrace a new skill while connecting to the past and join in this spinning circle at Pottsgrove Manor! *Ages 12+, Registration Required, Materials Fee \$60 per person, participants are encouraged to bring a bagged lunch.*

Saturday, October 14th at 1:00pm

Pottstown on Paper—Exploring Family History through Deeds

For the genealogy enthusiasts, join us for a presentation by Jeanne Sorg, Recorder of Deeds for Montgomery County! Dating back to 1784, the office is responsible for maintaining all county land records and other miscellaneous papers. Discover how you can trace the history of your own house or property! Or learn research methods for discovering your own family history in the region.

Friday, November 10th at 12:00 noon

Road Trip!—Exploring Potts Places (Digital Series)

Follow this digital series as we hit the road, visiting the many households, forges, and furnaces connected to the Potts family and related connections. If you’ve heard about the commercial “iron empire” helmed by John Potts Sr., then it’s time you visit all the places connected to it! Join our staff virtually as they drive to different historic sites, exploring Potts-related places and having conversations with museum professionals, living history reenactors, and experts in the Pennsylvania iron industry.

Follow posts on social media and videos on our YouTube channel.

Friday, November 24th, 2023 through Sunday,

January 7th, 2024 during regular museum hours

Twelfth Night Holiday Tours

Witness the transformation of Pottsgrove Manor for the yuletide season and reveal the traditions of an 18th-century Twelfth Night party. Twelfth Night marked the end of the Christmastide season, celebrated on Epiphany. Guided tours of the manor explore all aspects of the festivities, from the intense preparations to the differences between the way elite families like the Potts and their household staff experienced the season. Uncover the links of winter traditions both old and new at Pottsgrove Manor.



Sunday, December 10th, 2023 from 11:00am to

5:00pm

18th-Century Holiday Frost Fair

Celebrate the season with Pottsgrove Manor’s holiday event, Frost Fair! Immerse yourself by going through the grounds and talking with the historic vendors and demonstrators about their wares. Laugh with the whole family at historic puppet shows and musical entertainments! Wander through the museum as living history interpreters share the history of the holiday season with revelry and treats being made in the historic hearth. Find the perfect something for every person on your holiday list with local vendors and creators at the Holiday Market. Make sure Frost Fair is part of your holiday traditions! Follow signs for parking and to free Visitor Shuttle to the grounds. *Weather Dependent.*